

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Henry Burgess VAS2781
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

To his Excellency David Campbell Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia
Your Memorialist John Boyd now of the town of Lebanon in the county of Warren and state of Ohio late of the county of Madison and state of Tennessee as the gaurdian of his minor children Benjamin F, Milton B & James W. Boyd and on behalf of his other children respectfully represents to your honor that Henry Burgess (the father of your memorialists wife Elizabeth) enlisted in the State line of Virginia under Captain John Mellon in August of the year 1779 at Martinsburg in Berkeley county Virginia to serve during the war in the army commanded by Col. afterwards Gen'l. Geo. Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark VAS269]] and which was sent against the posts in the then country of Illinois; that from Martinsburg the company of which said Burgess was a member marched under the command of Major Wales [sic: George Walls R18785] to Red Stone Old Fort now Brownsville in Pennsylvania where they joined the main body of the troops; that the said Burgess with the company commanded by Capt John Mellon proceeded from Brownsville to the falls of the Ohio River [now Louisville KY] at which place Capt Mellen resigned his commission and one John Carney [sic: John Kearney R15613] was placed in command over the company thence they proceeded under their commanding officers Col Joseph Crockett [S46377] and Gen'l Geo Clarke to the place of their place of destination against the posts in the territory of Illinois. And Your Memorialist represents that the said Henry Burgess served from the time of his enlistment until his discharge as an artificer in the capacity of a blacksmith under Gen'l Clarke and Col. Joseph Crockett and that he was with his fellow soldiers honorably discharged at the falls of the Ohio River in the Autumn of 1782 and that after his discharge and until the year 1810 the said Burgess resided in Rockingham county Virginia before which time and about 35 years since he lost his discharge. From Rockingham county in 1810 he removed to Christian county in the state of Kentucky out of which Todd county was afterwards taken and by the partition the said Burgess became a citizen of Todd. And your memorialist further represents that in the year 1835 the said Henry Burgess having heard that Col. Crockett one of his superior officers resided near Frankfort, Franklin county Kentucky was on his journey thither to obtain from him a certificate of his discharge with the view of obtaining bounty land for his services in the war of the Revolution when he was accidentally killed in crossing Salt River in a ferry boat, and your memorialist further states that said Henry Burgess has not at any time received any [two or three illegible words] bounty from the General Government or State of Virginia
Your Memorialist represent that Henry Burgess died intestate leaving three children Henry & John Burgess both of whom died without issue and Elizabeth the wife of your memorialist who is now dead leaving Henry J[?], Jane William S[?], Martha, Priscilla, Benjamin F, Milton B and James W. Boyd his children and hers at Law two of whom Henry [?] & William S. Boyd have since deceased.
Your Memorialist therefore prays that Jane [?], Martha, Priscilla, Benjamin F, Milton B and James Boyd the only surviving heirs of Henry Burgess may receive in such manner as is provided by law the bounty land which the said Henry Burgess would have been entitled to receive for his services in the State line of Virginia in the Revolutionary War.
John Boyd

State of Ohio } Ss
Warren County }

Personally came before me Benjamin Blackburn a Justice of the Peace for the county of Warren John Boyd whose signature is affixed to the within memorial who being duly sworn according to Law deposes & says that he has heard the said Henry Burgess frequently speak of his services in Genl. Clarke's campain and that he has heard John Trover [R10712] Levi Derry & John Shirts who were his messmates

speaking of the services of Henry Burgess in said campaign and that from the character of Burgess and the other persons whose names are mentioned he has no doubt that all the facts [undeciphered word] in his Memorial in relation to the services of said Burgess are true. Deponent further [illegible] that he himself has seen the discharge [illegible] Burgess before it was lost. Deponent states [illegible] Henry Burgess had [illegible] the three children named in his memorial and that Henry died without issue and that John died before him, and deponent states that Elizabeth was the only remaining heir of Henry Burgess who died in 1834 leaving the children named in the memorial two of whom Henry P and William S Boyd are now dead and further deponent saith not
Sworn to and subscribed before me [the rest illegible]

The state of Ohio } Ss
Warren County } Before me an acting justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally came Benjamin Baldwin Sen. [R19355] who being duly sworn doth up on his oath depose & say that that he was well acquainted with Henry Burges of Burkly County in the State of Virginia and that he knows that he the said Burges served as a black smith in the waggon army for about three years and three months. that he the said Burgees enlisted under Captain John Mellon and continued in the service under Captain John Carney who succeeded the said John Mellon. Deponent says that the said Burges enlisted at Martinsburgh [sic: Martinsburg] about the last of August 1779 and continued in the service untill the latter part of November in the year 1782 deponent further says that he (this deponent) served in the same company with the said Burges during the whole time the said Burges was in the service and that they were discharged at the same time at the falls of the Ohio river deponent says that said Burges served in Captain John Mellons Company under Col. Joseph Crocket in Gen Clarks Campaign in the revolutionary war
Sworn to and subscribed [the rest missing from online image]

The State of Ohio } Ss
Warren County } Before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County Afs't personally Appeared Eliza Jane Harnsberger and Anna Harrison, who being duly sworn According to law deposeseth and saith that they were well acquainted with Henry Burgess of Berkley County and state of Virginia. that they were well acquainted with his only daughter Elizabeth Burges and that she was married to John Boyd of Rockingham County and state of Virginia, and further they say not.
Sworn to & subscribed/ before me this 1st day of April AD 1836. [signed] Anna Harrison
[undeciphered signature] [signed] Eliza Jane Harnsberger